



FORT ORD PROJECT
Multi-Institutional Center for
Science, Technology, Education, and Policy

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95064

March 11, 1994

Congressman Sam Farr
U.S. House of Representatives
Office of the 17th Congressional District of California
1216 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Farr:

Thank you for your continued assistance with the University's conveyance request for land at Fort Ord, which is currently moving forward under the 1994 National Defense Authorization Act, Section 2903.

The University of California is committed to working with you, regional institutions, and others to develop a viable center of Science, Technology, Education, and Policy at the Fort Ord site. As discussed in the past, the eventual success of this undertaking is critically linked to the ability of the University to develop public/private interactions at the site. It will be this marriage of funding streams that provides the flexibility for development and job creation into the next century.

In response to your request for clarification of the planning process for the University's efforts, including the University's commitment to this effort, a business plan, and expected source of funds, I submit the following.

The UC - Fort Ord Project is an effort initiated and led by the Santa Cruz campus, in response to the request for participation by then Congressman Panetta, you, and others, on behalf of the University of California system. The request for conveyance of lands to the University, initially under the public conveyance process managed by the Department of Education, was approved by the Regents of the University of California in September, 1993. The commitment of the University of California to undertake this project, as exhibited by the approval of request for conveyance of the requested lands, continues to be strong.

The University's planning process is moving down three tracks; program, physical, and business planning. Ideally, we would develop these consecutively. However, due to the timing and the nature of the opportunity, these planning activities are occurring in parallel.

To support the multi-institutional nature of the effort, to provide sound strategic planning advice and to develop strong linkages, all three planning tracks will be supported by campus facilitated advisory committees drawn from talent within the university, region and beyond. The advisory committees for program and planning have been constituted already. The business planning committee has an anticipated formation timeline of April-May, 1994.

With the guidance of the advisory committees, the University is developing requests for proposals (RFP) to solicit outside, focused talent for these important planning activities. The RFP for the physical planning has already been released to five teams preselected through a

request for qualifications process. The university expects selection of the winning proposal in March and the completed contract, providing a preliminary master plan and infrastructure recommendation, to be delivered in November, 1994.

The program planning activities are being developed along programmatic tracks, such as environmental remediation or telecommunications. Each of these program plans will be developed by a planning team with expertise in the appropriate areas of expertise drawn from UCSC, other UC campuses, other regional organizations, and private industry. This will be an ongoing and iterative process with both physical and business planning activities.

The business planning process is currently being developed and the members of the business planning advisory council identified. It is our expectation to, again, have this operational in the April-May time frame, review successful business planning models in May and June, develop and release a RFP for business planning in July of this year and have a preliminary business plan available for discussion before the end of 1994.

Ideally the University would have completed these planning activities prior to, or in connection with, the conveyance of the lands. However, as you may recall, due to the complexities and changing nature of base conversion guidelines, the timeline for conveyance has continually shifted. In addition, and probably more importantly, the planning funds necessary for these activities were requested from the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) in July of 1992 but not made available to the University from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) until December of 1993. This "lost time" of nearly a year and a half has hindered our ability to develop the documents as discussed.

The issue of funding sources for the development of the University-led center is directly tied to the method and terms of land conveyance. It is the intent of the University to develop a center that marries funding streams from State, Federal and private sources. It is planned that the physical development of the center will include private investment and other public financing mechanisms. The program activities will be developed through grant funding from both public and private sources. It is not now, nor has it ever been, the intent of the University of California to rely entirely on Federal DOD or State funds to build the center. Unlike our sister institution, the California State University, the lands requested by the University of California at Fort Ord are relatively undeveloped with no significant need for retrofit activities.

I hope the above clarifies the planning process we are undertaking with regard to Fort Ord. As you can see, it will not be possible to provide business or physical plans prior to the conveyance of lands at Fort Ord to the University. Again, we had hoped to have had this planning much further along, but delayed funding resulted in delayed planning.

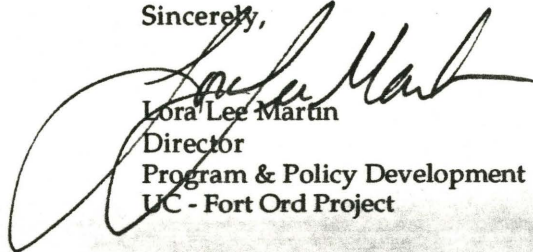
On another but related issue, the University has requested conveyance of the Fort Ord landfill and surrounding lands. This conveyance request was based on our desire to develop programmatic and industrial activities in the area of environmental remediation. Over the past year we have been in discussion with national labs, regional agencies, universities and industry representatives regarding viable and necessary program activities specific to technologies related to landfill remediation, unexploded ordinance, heavy metals in soils, and base conversion policy issues. This activity has been met with increasing interest and enthusiasm and has recently resulted in a designation of the Fort Ord site as a demonstration site for on-site innovative technologies (DOIT) by the Western Governor's Association. The University is committed to pursuing this program track, especially with regard to the potential value it can bring the Department of Defense in military conversion activities on the national

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and international front. Because the University's interest in the landfill is dependent upon programmatic opportunities, if this linkage cannot be defined and funded in the near-term, the University will be forced to re-evaluate our interest in the conveyance of the landfill.

Again, thank you for your continued assistance, please let me know if you need further clarification.

Sincerely,



Lora Lee Martin
Director
Program & Policy Development
UC - Fort Ord Project

cc: Chancellor Karl Pister
Executive Vice Chancellor Michael Tanner
Vice Chancellor Ed Coate
Associate Vice Chancellor Jim Gill